

March 4, 1957

Dear Luq/A

Thank you for sending Weigle's ms. I'm afraid we just won't be able to give it a critical review. Josh and I are just about to embark for a month's travelling in France and Britain (Ciba). You might send it to Larry Morse for a thorough job.

Weigle did send us an earlier version, and we had several letters back and forth and with Larry. He should be acquainted with any of our pertinent unpublished work, for example on the behavior of the h mutant of lambda in transduction.

He does recapitulate a great deal, perhaps more than needs be. The background has already been gone over in great detail, not only in our experimental papers, but in Josh's review in American Scientist, and elsewhere.

It originally appeared as if there might be some conflict between Weigle's findings, for example on the burst size of Hft<sup>+</sup> cells and Larry's unpublished work. However, it now appears that this is probably a strain difference, his 'wild-type' lambda being Kaiser's clearer-plaque mutant.

We do hope you could lend your influence to encourage precision in syntax, documentation, etc. "Transduced cell" is a monstrous phrase that ought to be banned (ourselves included) if we are also going to speak (more correctly) of "transduced fragment".\* The noun heterogenote should form the adjective heterogenetic. HFT was defined as "high frequency of transduction" (to describe lysates); a clone which gave HFT lysates was called HFT<sup>+</sup>. There is more of the same sort of thing, whose importance we leave to you.

\*what's wrong/  
with transformed?

You have probably heard of the dilemmas that Josh and I are in these days. That a time for all these trips, while the decisions are still hanging fire. We're sorry we couldn't make it to Evanston, but time was becoming too scarce.

Yours,

Joshua and Esther  
Lederberg